From: Tim Malone
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 10:31pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I believe that the proposed settlement in the Microsoft Anti-trust case, does not go far enough to restrict Microsoft's anti-competitive activities.

For instance, Section III.B allows them to offer discounts on Windows to OEMs based on the number of copies of other Microsoft products they buy. This allows them to leverage their intel-compatible operating system monopoly to gain dominance in other markets, like the embedded OS market. Also, the restrictions placed on the use of the documentation released to the competition by Microsoft, nullify the effects of having the documentation. To truly open up the field of competition, the API documentation should be released to the public domain, and no longer locked down under patents and copyrights.

--

Tim Malone